TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The Steel Development Fund (SDF) was constituted in June, 1978 to assist inter alia the modernisation and development programmes of the Steel Sector.

The Steel Development Fund has been utilised mainly to provide loans to steel producers for financing schemes, projects and capital expenditure for modernisation, diversification and improvement of the technology and efficiency of iron and steel production.

The SDF has helped the main steel producers in financing their modernisation and expansion plans. However, after the deregulation of steel prices w.e.f. 16.1.92, the Main producers of Steel represented that the SDF levy may be discontinued because it placed them at a disadvantage vis-a-vis other domestic producers and also against imported steel on which no SDF contribution was required to be paid. After examining all the relevant issues, SDF levy was discontinued w.e.f. 21/22.4.94. There is no proposal to revive the SDF levy. However, the Joint Plant Committee continues to be responsible for the management and operation of the corpus of the Steel Development Fund and interest received and accrued thereon under the directions of the SDF Managing Committee.

Payment of Arrears to CPWD Employees

7521. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2581 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 1994 and state:

(a) the number of Lift Operators who retired from service since October, 1988 till date in Electric Division III, C.P.W.D., Delhi but have not been paid arrears of revised pay scales as per the Arbitration Award;

(b) the names of lift operators who have not been paid arrears so far and the amount due to each of them; and

(c) what action Government proposed to take to pay the arrears at the earliest.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Five Lift Operators have retired from Service since October, 1988 till date in the Electric Division III, C.P.W.D. All have been paid arrears of revised pay scale as per Arbitration Award.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

DDA's New Pattern Scheme, 1979

7522. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of allotments of MIG/LIG flats under New Pattern/HUDCO scheme of 1979 made by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to various applicants, have refused the allotment and applied for final cancellation;

(b) if so, the number of such applications received so far;

(c) whether the registration fee alongwith interest accrued thereon has been refunded to them by DDA;

(d) if so, procedure and the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) DDA has reported that about 1185 allottees under the MIG category and about 360 allottees under the LIG category have requested for cancellation of allotment made to them during the year 1994-95 under the New Pattern Registration Scheme, 1979 and have asked for refund of their registration money.